GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM AND CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1707
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2001
REPORT ON TOURIST TRAFFIC
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Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) has recently released any report on tourist traffic in the country;

(b) if so, the details of points mentioned in the report;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto;

(d) whether India's tourism draft policy (1993) envisages three million tourist arrivals by the turn of the century;

(e) if so, the extent to which the target has been achieved;

(f) whether the Government would consider setting up a Tourism Promotion Board and lay emphasis on attracting more rich and serious tourists rather than backpackers; and
(g) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTHKUMAR)

(a) and (b): The Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) has released a report which talks of the outbound traffic from India.

(c): Government of India's attempt has been to enhance growth of tourism to India.

(d): There is no draft Tourism Policy prepared in 1993 which envisaged 3 million tourist arrivals by the turn of the century. The Action Plan for development of tourism recommended by the Task Forces set-up by the Department of Tourism, Govt. of India, which was released in the year 2000, has suggested to set a target of 5 million foreign tourist arrivals within the next 5 years.

(e): The total number of foreign tourist arrivals in India by the end of 2000 was 2.64 million and the estimated figure for the same by June 2001 is 1.31 million.

(f) and (g): A Group of Ministers on Tourism Industry and Trade has been constituted for coordination among different agencies involved in development and promotion of tourism.